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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/700,272	01/12/2001	Harri Hurme		2854

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EXAMINER

SWERDLOW, DANIEL

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2646

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/700,272

Applicant(s)

HURME ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel Swerdlow

Art Unit

2646

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 July 2005 and 04 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 7, 9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6 and 8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5 July 2005 has been entered.

2. Applicant's request for continued examination, while filed on 5 August 2005, was delayed, at least in part, due to applicant's entry of an incorrect application serial number at the top of the form PTO/SB/30. Applicant's assistance by faxing a copy of the filed form to examiner on February 8 was instrumental in assisting examiner in locating the submission and having it entered in the correct application file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Blaszykowski et al. (US Patent 5,125,027).

5. Regarding Claim 1, Blaszykowski discloses a central office line interface circuit (Figs. 1, 2A) that corresponds to the electric device claimed and connects a local central office that

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corresponds to the analog data transfer device claimed (column 4, lines 36-38) by means of a multiplexer (Fig. 1, reference 12; column 3, lines 8-16) that corresponds to the control unit claimed to a logic interface (Fig. 1, reference 0; column 3, lines 8-16) that corresponds to the digital transfer device claimed and connects to a terminal (Fig. 1, reference 11; column 3, lines 5-8) that corresponds to the data transfer device claimed with telephone lines (Fig. 1, reference 2; column 2, lines 38-44) that correspond to the twin cable claimed comprising: a current amplifier arrangement (Fig. 2A, reference 20; column 5, line 67-column 6, line 53) that increases current to seize the line (i.e., loops current fed into the cable from its other end) (column 6, lines 1-4, 30-33); an optocoupler (Fig. 2A, reference 70; column 6, lines 1-4) that, with associated components, corresponds to the first current switching device claimed; and an optocoupler (Fig. 2A, reference 74; column 6, lines 30-33) that, with associated components, corresponds to the second current switching device claimed.

6. Regarding Claim 7, Blaszykowski further discloses: the optocoupler (Fig. 2A, reference 70) and associated components, that correspond to the first current switching device claimed connected in parallel with the telephone lines (Fig. 1, reference 2; column 2, lines 38-44) that correspond to the twin cable claimed via the collector of the transistor in the optocoupler and the collector of transistor 61; and the optocoupler (Fig. 2A, reference 74) and associated components, that correspond to the second current switching device claimed connected in parallel with the telephone lines (Fig. 1, reference 2; column 2, lines 38-44) that correspond to the twin cable claimed via the emitter of transistor 64 and resistor 79.

7. All elements of Claim 9 are comprehended by Claim 1. As such, Claim 9 is rejected on the same grounds as Claim 1.

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8. Regarding Claim 10, Blaszykowski further discloses: transmission of audio signals (column 4, lines 13-17); switching loop current (column 6, lines 30-33); transmitting selection pulses (column 6, lines 30-33); and providing electrical isolation (column 4, lines 13-17).

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 2 through 6 and 8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

11. Regarding Claim 2, as shown above apropos of Claim 1, Blaszykowski anticipates all elements of that claim. However, as is shown in Fig. 2A, with the exception of control signals N and BC, the transmission bridge circuit that corresponds to the current amplifier arrangement claimed operates using only the voltage on the telephone lines (Fig. 1, reference 2; column 2, lines 38-44) that correspond to the twin cable claimed provided by the central office that corresponds to the analog data transfer device claimed. As such, there is no teaching or suggestion in the prior art to modify the central office line interface circuit taught by Blaszykowski to include a first supply voltage greater any voltage level on the twin cable and a second supply voltage less than any voltage level on the twin cable as claimed. Because the prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest this feature of Claim 2, the claim is allowable matter.

12. Claims 3 through 6 are allowable matter due to dependence from Claim 2.

13. Claim 8 contains limitations similar to those of Claim 2 and is allowable matter for the same reasons.

Response to Arguments

14. Applicant's arguments with respect to all claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Swerdlow whose telephone number is 571-272-7531. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 7:30 AM and 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh H. Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Daniel Swerdlow
Examiner
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